

SECRET**288**

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ROUTING			
TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1			
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4			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
REMARKS:			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NO.			
			DATE

CONTROL NO. Z-11349/82

NPIC/PEG (9/82)

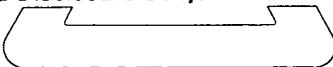
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**Warning Notice**

Intelligence Sources or Methods Involved

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

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(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTERPage 1 of 1Attachment to Z-11349/82
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TWO PART GRAPHIC

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PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EVENTS PREPARATIONS
ASTRAKHAN PNE SITE I. USSR

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1. (SWN) SIGNIFICANCE: IF ALL FOUR EMPLACEMENT SITES ARE COMPLETED AT THIS SITE AND DETONATED IN CLOSE SUCCESSION IT WOULD BE THE FIRST QUADRUPLE PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EVENT EVER CONDUCTED IN THE SOVIET UNION.
2. (SWN) REMARKS: LATE-STAGE PREPARATIONS FOR THREE AND PROBABLY FOUR PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EVENTS (PNE) ARE OBSERVED NEAR ASTRAKHAN PNE SITE I. TWO PROBABLE TYPE I NUCLEAR WARHEAD VANS (ONE WITH REAR DOORS OPEN) HAVE ARRIVED AT THE CENTRAL CONTROL POINT (CP)/SUPPORT CAMP (GRAPHIC 1) SINCE [REDACTED] THE WARHEAD VANS AND ONE CARGO TRUCK ARE INSIDE A SECURED PARKING AREA NEXT TO THE SECURED CP WHERE EIGHT PROBABLE SUPPORT VANS ARE PRESENT. THE PRESENCE OF THESE WARHEAD VANS INDICATES THAT TWO OR MORE OF THE NUCLEAR DEVICES TO BE USED IN THIS EVENT MAY BE AT THE CP/SUPPORT CAMP. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITY IS ALSO OBSERVED AT THE EMPLACEMENT SITE (GRAPHIC 2) 2134 METERS SOUTHWEST OF THE CP AT 46-45-05N 048-15-20E. THIS EMPLACEMENT SITE CONTAINS A LARGE DRILL RIG THAT HAS BEEN FENCE SECURED SINCE [REDACTED] A FENCE-SECURED FORWARD RECORDING SITE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED APPROXIMATELY 200 METERS NORTHEAST OF THE EMPLACEMENT SITE, AND TWO PROBABLE LIGHTNING ARRESTERS ARE ON THE GROUND NEAR IT. EXCAVATION OF AN ADDITIONAL CABLE TRENCH IS IN PROGRESS BETWEEN THE CP AND THIS EMPLACEMENT SITE. THE HIGH LEVEL OF ACTIVITY AT THIS EMPLACEMENT SITE SUGGESTS THAT A CONCERTED EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO BRING THIS SITE TO THE SAME READINESS STATUS AS THE OTHER THREE. ONE SMALL TRUCK-MOUNTED DRILL RIG REMAINS AT OR NEAR EACH OF THE OTHER THREE FENCE-SECURED EMPLACEMENT SITES.

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[REDACTED] COORDINATES 46-45-18N 048-16-23E

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COMMENTS AND QUERIES REGARDING THIS BRIEFING BOARD MAY BE DIRECTED TO [REDACTED]

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